[16th December 1954

Taxi-meters for auto-rickshaws.

* 384 *Q.*—Sri N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state why mileage meters have not been introduced for auto-rickshaws in the City of Madras?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Taxi meters small enough to be fitted to auto-rickshaws are not available in the market and therefore taxi meters are not fitted to auto-rickshaws. But they are fitted with speedometers which record the mileage travelled."

Sri K. VINAYAKAM :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that in most cases the speedometers in the auto-rickshaws are not functioning and even if they function, they are not visible? Therefore, will the Government take steps to install proper and suitable meters in the auto-rickshaws? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I have travelled in one or two of them and I have found them to be perfectly all right."

Sri V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" I do not put my question because the hon. Member Sri Vinayakam has put my question through television."

Sri N. K. PALANISAMY :—" சரியான மீட்டர்கள் ஆட்டோ ரிக்ஷாவில் இல்லாததின் காரணமாக பொது மக்கள் பலர் ஏமாற்றப்பட்டு வருவதால் பணம் இவ்வளவு ஆயிற்று என ரூபாய், அணா, பைசாவில் காட்டும் மீட்டர்களை அவைகளில் வைப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் உடனடியாக ஏற்பாடு செய்வார்களா ? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The Government are satisfied that the meters are working properly. If specific instances of defect are brought to the notice of the Government by noting down the number of the auto-rickshaws, we will certainly take action."

Sri K. VINAYAKAM :—" By way of information, may I know whether the Hon. Minister revealed his identity to the auto-rickshaw-owner before he travelled? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I went incognito."

Alleged torture of Harijans in Karuppukatti village, Tirunelveli district.

* 385 *Q.*—Sri A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received any representation, dated 20th April 1954, from the Bombay South Indian Adi-Dravida Mahajan Sangh regarding dacoity and torture that took place at midnight on 30th March 1954 in Karuppukatti village, Mathuraikulam Post, Tirunelveli district;